

N THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 10 of the specification as follows:

The economics of the present coke fines process is improved by (1) use of feedback tar, resulting in the elimination of the need to import the tar portion of the binder and/or (2) elimination of the requirement to process and sell excess low-value tars.

In order to do this, the present invention contemplates blending coke fines (e.g. coke breeze generated from conventional coking processes or petroleum coke) with waste non-coking coal fines. The fines are not subjected to elutriation. The coal breeze and /or petroleum coke fines and low grade coal fines are blended with a binder. The blend may be fed directly into the pyrolyzer or pressed into briquettes or other solid forms and subsequently cured. The relative mixture of coke fines with coal fines can be varied depending on the devolatilization products of the coal to obtain a process with closed material-loops where all of the products of devolatilization are used within the process.